

Inaugural Lymphoma Nurse Conference 2021

# Piecing it together

Understanding lymphoma and  
CLL to improve patients' lives



5–6 June 2021  
[www.lymphoma.org.au](http://www.lymphoma.org.au)





# Welcome to the Inaugural Lymphoma Nurse Conference 2021



Lymphoma Australia welcome you to the Inaugural Lymphoma Nurse Conference. Thank you for joining us from across Australia and New Zealand.

Lymphoma Australia is committed to supporting and enhancing the knowledge of cancer nurses caring for Australian lymphoma and CLL patients. We aim to provide the latest and best information in the management of lymphoma/CLL, to improve the experience and outcomes for those affected.

We hope that you enjoy the conference. It includes presentations from some of Australia and New Zealand's leading experts in lymphoma/CLL care.

We welcome your participation and engagement during the Inaugural Lymphoma Nurse Conference.

Yours sincerely  
**Lymphoma Australia team**

## Thank you for the support from our sponsors!



## Agenda

<b>Day 1 - Saturday 5 June 2021</b>			<b>Session 4</b> COVID-19 & lymphoma/CLL		
10:00 am	Welcome & opening	<b>Erica Smeaton</b> Lymphoma Australia	2:25 pm	COVID-19 vaccines – best global practice	<b>Associate Prof Paul Griffin</b> Director of Infectious Disease Mater Health Services Brisbane, Australia
10:10 am	Welcome to country Opening	<b>Dr Jason Butler</b> Lymphoma Australia	2:50 pm	The COVID-19 – how has this affected the management of lymphoma/CLL?	<b>Dr Jason Butler</b> Senior Staff Haematologist Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital & Sunshine Coast University Hospital
<b>Session 1</b> Nurses can empower patients through knowledge			3:15 pm	Q&A discussion	<b>Associate professor Paul Griffin</b> <b>Dr Jason Butler</b>
10:25 am	Revealing the patient voice	<b>Pru Etcheverry</b> Regional Director, Asia Pacific Lymphoma Coalition	3:25 pm	Afternoon tea	
10:45 am	Q&A discussion	<b>Pru Etcheverry &amp; Sharon Millman, CEO</b> Lymphoma Australia	<b>Session 5</b> What goes on behind the scenes for patients?		
10:55 am	Carol's story	Video recording	3:40 pm	The role of nurses to facilitate difficult conversations with patients	<b>Professor Fran Boyle</b> Pam McLean Centre Sydney, New South Wales
11:00 am	Novel therapies for lymphoma	<b>Associate Professor Michael Dickinson</b> Disease lead – Aggressive lymphoma Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre Melbourne, Victoria	4:20 pm	Q&A panel discussion	<b>Professor Fran Boyle &amp; Dr Renee Lim</b> Pam McLean Centre, Sydney <b>Donna Gairns</b> Lymphoma Australia
11:20 am	Q&A discussion	<b>Associate Professor Michael Dickinson</b>	4:40 pm	Close	
<b>Session 2</b> Improving patient outcomes – Clinical Trials			<b>Day 2 – Sunday 6 June 2021</b>		
11:40 am	Understanding the benefits of clinical trials for patients	<b>Professor Judith Trotman</b> Head of Haematology Concord Hospital Sydney, New South Wales	10:00 am	Welcome	
12:10 pm	Deb's story	Video recording	<b>Session 1</b> Lymphoma/CLL in regional & rural settings - part 1		
12:15 pm	Nurses empowering patients to improve outcomes	<b>Jennifer Harman</b> Manager – Haematology Clinical Trials Concord Hospital Sydney, New South Wales	10:00 am	Management of the lymphoma/CLL patient outside of large metropolitan centres	<b>Dr Georgina Hodges</b> Consultant Haematologist Barwon Health Geelong, Victoria
12:35 pm	Q&A discussion	<b>Professor Judith Trotman</b> <b>Jennifer Harman</b>	10:30 am	Nursing management of the regional or rural patient with lymphoma/CLL	<b>Kylie Grevell</b> Haematology Clinical Nurse Consultant Liz Plummer Cancer Care Centre Cairns Hospital Cairns, Queensland
12:45 pm	Lunch break		10:55 am	Q&A discussion	<b>Dr Georgina Hodges</b> <b>Kylie Grevell</b>
<b>Session 3</b> The era of novel oral therapies			<b>Session 2</b> Lymphoma/CLL in regional & rural settings - part 2		
1:15 pm	The oral therapy evolution in lymphoma & CLL	<b>Professor Chan Cheah</b> Head of lymphoma Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital Perth, Western Australia	11:20 am	Managing the treatment of patients in regional and rural settings	<b>Dr Douglas Lenton</b> Head of the Laboratory & Clinical Haematology Orange Health Service Orange, New South Wales
1:40 pm	Warren's story	Video recording	11:50 am	Managing patient care in a regional Queensland Haematology service	<b>Ron Middleton</b> Clinical Nurse Consultant Toowoomba Base Hospital Toowoomba, Queensland
1:45 pm	Nursing management of patients on oral therapies	<b>Tania Cushion</b> Lymphoma Clinical Nurse Consultant Olivia Newton-John Cancer Wellness & Research Centre Austin Health Melbourne, Victoria	12:10 pm	Q&A discussion	<b>Dr Douglas Lenton</b> <b>Ron Middleton</b>
2:05 pm	Q&A discussion	<b>Professor Chan Cheah</b> <b>Tania Cushion</b>	12:20 pm	Closing	<b>Sharon Millman</b> Lymphoma Australia
2:15 pm	Break		12:30 pm	Close	

## Meet the Presenters

Day 1 - Saturday 5 June 2021

### Session 1 – Nurses can empower through knowledge



**Pru Etcheverry** has worked for nearly 20 years in patient advocacy, both in New Zealand and internationally. Her current role with the international Lymphoma Coalition (LC) involves working with cancer patient organisations, predominantly in Asia-Pacific. It includes capacity-building, sharing best-practice, evidence-based advocacy and data collection and dissemination.

Pru is currently a director of Advocacy Answers New Zealand which provides strategy expertise for not for profit, businesses and Government. Prior to that she was CEO of Leukaemia & Blood Cancer New Zealand developing it to become a prominent player in the not-for-profit sector by establishing national patient services, a blood cancer research unit, advocacy platforms and substantial revenue streams to ensure sustainability.



**Associate Professor Michael Dickinson** is the Lead of Aggressive Lymphoma on the CAR T-team at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre & Royal Melbourne Hospital.

His main research interest is in developing new treatments for lymphoma through leadership in investigator-led and industry-led clinical trials which have particularly focused on immunotherapies and epigenetic therapies for lymphoma. Michael has been intimately involved in the establishment of CAR T-cell treatments in Australia. Michael also works at Cabrini Hospital in Malvern, Melbourne.

Michael is a member of the Lymphoma Australia's Medical Sub-committee.

### Session 2 – Improving patient outcomes through clinical trials



**Professor Judith Trotman** (MBCbB, FRACP, FRCPA) is the Head of Haematology, Concord Hospital, University of Sydney. Dr Trotman is committed to embedding research into clinical care as the founding Director 2004-2019, Concord Haematology Clinical Research Unit. As a past ALLG Lymphoma Chair she maintained close collaborations with international co-operative groups leading the ALLG's contribution to RATHL, REMARC, and now PETReA and RADAR trials. She provides global leadership in charting the role of PET scanning in follicular lymphoma (PET in PRIMA, FOLLCOLL, GALLIUM, RePLy and PETReA studies). She has developed a number of digital initiatives with colleagues and patients, including the ClinTrial Refer smartphone App, the My Hodgkin My Health App, and the WhiMSICAL study - a global patient-derived database for patients with WM.



**Jennifer Harman** is a Clinical Nurse Consultant and currently Acting Manager of the Haematology Clinical Research Unit at Concord Hospital. Jennifer started her nursing career at Westmead Hospital in Haematology as a Ward based nurse before choosing to travel to London where she began her career in Clinical Research at Imperial College London. The skills and experience gained in clinical research allowed her to become an integral part of Concord Hospital Clinical Research Unit and helped the unit grow to become the largest Haematology Clinical Research Unit in NSW. Jennifer currently has over 15 years' experience in Haematology and Clinical Research where she has worked on multiple international Phase I to Phase III studies with cutting edge technology and providing world class care to patients from diverse backgrounds. Working in clinical research has presented Jennifer with multiple opportunities to develop and grow her nursing skills, which have allowed her to train and develop nurses and clinical trial coordinators in her unit.

## Meet the Presenters

Day 1 - Saturday 5 June 2021

### Session 3 – Era of novel therapies



**Professor Chan Cheah** is a Consultant Haematologist, the clinical lead for lymphoma and Clinical Researcher at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital. He also works at Hollywood Private Hospital and is the Director of Blood Cancer Research WA. He is also an internationally renowned expert who has authored over 70 peer reviewed publications. He is passionate about improving access for Western Australian patients to the novel lymphoma treatments.

Chan is also a member of Lymphoma Australia's Medical Sub-committee



**Tania Cushion** is a Lymphoma Clinical Nurse Consultant at Olivia Newton John Cancer Centre, Austin Health in Melbourne. She has experience working in the public and private health sectors, having commenced her career at Royal Melbourne Hospital, gaining experience across a spectrum of acute and ambulatory oncology nursing domains, including community coordinating at Leukaemia Foundation. She completed her post-graduate studies in Cancer Nursing and Palliative Care. Tania holds professional memberships with Nursing Specialist Networks and is a co-author of professional publications in international journals.

### Session 4 COVID-19 & lymphoma/CLL



**Associate Professor Paul Griffin** is the Director of Infectious Diseases at Mater Health Services in Brisbane and Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Queensland School Of Medicine. He has fellowships in Infectious Diseases from the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, in Clinical Microbiology from the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia and from the Australasian College of Tropical Medicine. Paul has an active interest in early and late phase trials and has been the principal investigator on in excess of 120 clinical trials predominantly in Infectious Diseases including novel vaccines and now 4 vaccines for COVID-19. As a Clinical Microbiologist he maintains an active interest in diagnostic microbiology with a focus on clinical applications of faecal microbiome metagenomic sequencing. Finally, as a board member and scientific advisory board member of the immunisation coalition, Paul has an active interest in vaccine education and advocacy and has also had an extensive role in the media in recent times predominantly relating to vaccines and other Covid19 topics that has resulted in over 5000 media appearances with an estimated total audience now exceeding 2 billion people.



**Dr Jason Butler** is a senior staff specialist at the Bone Marrow Transplant Unit, Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital. He has dual training in clinical and laboratory haematology. Dr Butler also completed a Master's in Medical Science (Clinical Epidemiology) to assist with development of investigator-initiator research studies. He is the chair of the EviQ haematology reference committee. His major clinical interests are in all aspects of malignant haematology, particularly in leukaemia, lymphoma, and myeloma, as well as autologous and allogeneic stem cell transplantation, including investigator roles on clinical studies in each of these fields. Dr Butler also undertakes other roles, including extensive educational support and clinical presentations for patients and health professionals, and advocacy roles as a board member for Lymphoma Australia.

## Meet the Presenters

Day 1 - Saturday 5 June 2021

### Session 5 – What goes on behind the scenes for patients?



**Prof Fran Boyle AM** is a Medical Oncologist practicing in breast cancer at the Mater Hospital at North Sydney, where she is Director of the Patricia Ritchie Centre. She is also a Professor at the Sydney Medical School, involved in oncology teaching and research. Currently she is the President of the Clinical Oncology Society of Australia, engaged in workforce education, evidence-based care and policy development. As Director of the Pam McLean Centre at the University of Sydney, she has facilitated multidisciplinary communication skills training for healthcare professionals, and supported workforce resilience and patient centred care. In 2008 she was awarded Membership of the Order of Australia for her contributions to cancer research, treatment, policy, advocacy and education.



**Renee Lim** has worked for over 15 years as a Locum in Emergency, Geriatrics and Palliative Care. She is also a very experienced professional performer and these skills, combined with her medical expertise, academic knowledge and educational experience, are the foundation for her role devising and implementing the programs, formats, scenarios and educational outcomes for PMC.

Renee has also developed high-level facilitator skills and provides strategic insight and program management to ensure the ongoing viability and growth of the Centre.

Renee also plays a key role in the training of PMC facilitators and actors, development of online training modules including film, and expansion of our new topic areas in diverse health settings.



**Donna Gairns**, the National Nurse Manager with Lymphoma Australia. Donna has over 25 years of experience as a Registered Nurse, specialising in Haematology and Oncology nursing. Donna worked at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre for over 17 years in a variety of clinical settings giving her experience in many treatment modalities including, Haematology and Autologous Stem Cell Transplantation; Chemotherapy Day Unit (Associate Nurse Manager, Specialist Nurse Coordinator & Nurse Educator); Adolescent & Young Adult (AYA) Nurse Consultant within the Victorian & Tasmanian AYA Cancer Service at Peter Mac.

In 2017, started a new role as the AYA Clinical Nurse Consultant at Epworth Health, Richmond (Melbourne) where she set up a new service at the hospital for 15-25 years old cancer patients part-time, before joining the Lymphoma Australia team in 2017 as the National Nurse Manager, also part-time. Donna has helped to grow Lymphoma Australia's profile and nurse program since joining the team. Donna commenced a full-time position as the National Nurse Manager, since July 2019.

## Meet the Presenters

Day 2 - Sunday 6 June 2021

### Session 1 Lymphoma/CLL in regional & rural settings – part 1



**Georgina** is a dual trained clinical and laboratory haematologist. She was raised in North Queensland and studied medicine at James Cook University in the first year the course was offered. She completed basic physician training in Townsville and haematology training in Townsville and Brisbane. She has worked as a consultant haematologist at Townsville cancer for the past 8 years and has recently relocated to Geelong to work at the Andrew Love Cancer Centre. As an active member of the ALLG she is engaged in efforts to ensure regional and rural patients have access to clinical trials and excellent haematology care. Her other hats have included: writer for research review-leukaemia and lymphoma, deputy director of physician training, as well as working in the private sector. She is passionate about equity of access and good mentorship for junior medical staff.



**Kylie Grevell** is a Haematology CNC at Cairns and Hinterland Hospital Health Service. She studied nursing at Queensland University of Technology and completed her Graduate Nursing Program at Greenslopes Hospital in Haematology and Oncology in 2007. Since then she has worked at the Princess Alexandra Hospital and the BMT/Haematology ward at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital. Kylie moved to Cairns in 2012 to take up the opportunity as CNC in a regional area and develop a Haematology Service. Kylie is passionate about ensuring patients have access to treatment closer to home, as well training and education for nurses caring for haematology patients.

Previously a haematology oncology immunology nurse for 20 years; then did medicine; now Dept Head Lab and Clinical Haematology at Orange Hospital with an interest in lymphoma and leukaemia, transfusion, and coagulation/thrombosis.

### Session 2 – Lymphoma/CLL in regional & rural settings – part 2



**Ron Middleton** has been the Haematology Cancer Care Coordinator and Clinical Nurse Consultant at Toowoomba Hospital in regional Queensland since 2013. Ron has been a registered nurse for almost 35 years and has dedicated most of his career to malignant haematology. The majority of Ron's career has been at the Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital, in a number of clinical settings and roles that include haematology, bone marrow transplant unit, education and clinical nurse consultant.



**Dr Douglas Lenton** was previously a haematology oncology immunology nurse for 20 years, before he studied to do medicine. Dr Lenton is now the Department Head of the Laboratory and Clinical Haematology at Orange Hospital, with an interest in lymphoma and leukaemia, transfusion, and coagulation/thrombosis.